

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 141

Introduced by Assembly Member Holden

May 1, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 141—Relative to American Stroke Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 141, as introduced, Holden. American Stroke Month 2014.

This measure would declare May 2014 to be American Stroke Month in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term
2 disability and the fourth leading cause of death in California, killing
3 about 130,000 people nationwide and approximately 13,506
4 citizens of California each year; and

5 WHEREAS, Stroke prevalence is projected to increase in the
6 United States by 24.9 percent between 2010 and 2030, and the
7 direct medical costs for treating stroke are expected to increase by
8 238 percent, from \$28.3 billion in 2010 to \$95.6 billion by 2030;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Nearly 78 million Americans have high blood
11 pressure, which is a major controllable risk factor for stroke,
12 including 44 percent of African American adults — among the
13 highest prevalence of any population in the world; and

14 WHEREAS, More than half, 58 percent, of Americans do not
15 know if they are at risk for stroke; and

1 WHEREAS, One in three Americans cannot name any of the
2 signs or symptoms of a stroke; and

3 WHEREAS, The F.A.S.T. warning signs and symptoms of
4 stroke include face drooping, arm weakness, speech difficulty, and
5 time to call 9-1-1. Beyond F.A.S.T., additional stroke warning
6 signs and symptoms include sudden numbness or weakness of the
7 face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body, sudden
8 confusion, trouble speaking or understanding, sudden trouble
9 seeing in one or both eyes, sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss
10 of balance or coordination, and sudden severe headache with no
11 known cause; and

12 WHEREAS, The American Stroke Association's Together to
13 End Stroke initiative encourages Americans, on May 1, 2014, the
14 American Stroke Month Day of Action, throughout the month of
15 May, and year-round, to learn their personal stroke risk, memorize
16 and share the stroke warning signs, and call 9-1-1 at the first sign
17 of a stroke; and

18 WHEREAS, New and effective treatments have been developed
19 to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effect of strokes,
20 but much more research is needed; now, therefore, be it

21 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
22 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature declares May 2014 to be
23 American Stroke Month in California; and be it further

24 *Resolved*, That the Legislature urges all Californians to
25 familiarize themselves with the risk factors associated with stroke,
26 to recognize the warning signs and symptoms of stroke, and, at
27 the first signs of a stroke, to dial 9-1-1 immediately in order to
28 begin to reduce the devastating effects of stroke on our population;
29 and be it further

30 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
31 of this resolution to the author and to the Secretary of the Senate
32 for appropriate distribution.